

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE  
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of: ) Before the Examiner:  
Jeffrey W. Liebert ) John A. Rivell  
Application Serial No. 10/074,341 ) Group Art Unit 3753  
Filed February 12, 2002 ) Our Ref.: 4090-138  
BREAKAWAY SAFETY ) February 10, 2004  
SHUT-OFF VALVE )

**RESPONSE TO FIRST OFFICE ACTION****RECEIVED**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

FEB 24 2004  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Sir:

In response to the first Office Action dated November 25, 2003, please enter and consider the following amendments and remarks. Any necessary fees may be charged to, or overpayment credited to, Deposit Account No. 23-3030, but not to include payment of issue fees.

<p>I hereby certify that this Correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>February 10, 2004</u> (Date of Deposit)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Brad A. Schepers Name of Registered Representative</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Signature</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>February 10, 2004</u> Date of Signature</p>	
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01 FC:2201  
\$6.00 IP

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**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

Claims 1-30 were pending for the first Office Action in the subject application. Claims 25-30 have been allowed. Claims 7-9 and 16-18 have been indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claims 1-6, 10-15 and 19-24 have been rejected on various grounds. In view of the following amendments and remarks, reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are hereby requested.